

Effect of carbon and nitrogen sources on growth of *Colletotrichum* sp.

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ABSTRACT

The effect of carbon and nitrogen nutrition on the growth of *Colletotrichum coccodes* isolated from tomato, *Colletotrichum capsici* from chilli. *Colletotrichum gloeosporiosides* isolated from pepper were studied. Among carbon sources glucose, lactose and sucrose were found to be the best for growth of *Colletotrichum capsici*. Glucose, sucrose and fructose were found to be the best for growth of *Colletotrichum gloeosporiosides* and *Colletotrichum coccodes*. It is also evident from the results that potassium nitrate, casein and calcium nitrate were found to be good for the growth of *Colletotrichum capsici*, For *Colletotrichum gloeosporiosides* peptone, potassium nitrate and peptone and sodium nitrate were found to be best nitrogen sources for the growth of *Colletotrichum coccodes*.

Keywords :

Colletotrichum species, tomato, pepper, chilli, carbon and nitrogen sources.

Introduction:

Colletotrichum is one of the most economically important genus affecting a wide host range, especially on tropical and subtropical crops as well as fruit trees (Sutton, 1992). Above ground plant parts can be affected by *Colletotrichum* diseases at all stages on stems, leaves, flowers and fruits.

Anthrachnose caused by *Colletotrichum capsici* is a devastating disease of chilli (*Capsicum annum* L). It reduces the marketable yield from 10 to 80 % of the crop disease (Poonpolgul and Kumphai, 2007), it is prevalent in almost all the major chilli growing areas in India. It is reported to cause 10 to 30 % loss in Punjab (Rai and Chohan, 1996). 8 to 27 % in Maharashtra (Dattar, 1995) and 25 to 48 % in Karnataka (Ekbote, 2001).

Colletotrichum gloeosporioides is the most destructive pathogen of pepper (Amusa, et.al. 2004) and cause losses by pre and post emergence damping off, leaf spots, pre mature fruit drop, mummification of unripe green pepper fruits and fruits rots (Agrios, 1988). Several farmers abandoning pepper production as a result of the disease (Amusa, et.al. 2004). Fruits of hot and

sweet peppers (*Capsicum* spp.) are susceptible to several diseases including anthracnose and fruits rot. The disease limits production and losses occur in the field, in transit, and in storage. The primary losses occur on fruit because of any infection on the fruit reduces its quality and sale.

Tomato is a major contributor to the fruit vegetable diet of humans. It is cultivated in essentially all countries either in field or in protected culture. It is one of the most important vegetable crops in India and other countries. In India it is used for food and industrial purpose, It is severally affected by various diseases, but anthracnose is one of the major disease of tomato affecting tomato fruit and other parts which lead to heavily losses in the yield and marketability.

Carbon and Nitrogen are essential elements for the growth and sporulation of fungi. Utilization of carbon and nitrogen containing compounds by fungi depends on their ability to assimilate them, directly or after conversion into simple compounds. (Lilly and Barnett, 1951)

Material and Methods:

During present investigations the infected tomato, pepper and chilli sample, were collected from local market of Nanded (M.S.) The diseased pepper, chilli and tomato samples were preliminary identified on the basis of sporulation like asexual and sexual spores on fruiting structures under compound microscope and identified with the help of manuals (Subramanian; 1971; Neegaard and Mathur; 1980; Jha, 1993, Mukadam et.al. 2006).

Fungus cultures were selected and cultured on basal medium containing glucose 10g, potassium nitrate 5g, potassium dihydrogen phosphate 1g, magnesium sulphate 0.5g and distilled water to make 1000 ml. glucose and potassium nitrate in the medium were replaced by different carbon sources as like glucose, fructose, sucrose, maltose, lactose, gelatin, mannitol, starch and potassium nitrate, Ammonium nitrate, Ammonium molybdate, peptone, casein, calcium nitrate, Ammonium chloride as nitrogen sources. The medium was autoclaved and pH was adjusted to 6.0 each flask containing 25 ml of the medium was inoculated with 5 ml fungal spore suspension and incubated for 10 days at 25°C and filtered mycelial mat was dried.

Results and Discussion:

Among eight carbon nitrogen sources glucose (270 mg) lactose (190 mg) was found to be most favourable for the growth of *Colletotrichum capsici* and sucrose (190 mg), glucose (210 mg) was best for growth and sporulation of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*. Sucrose (240 mg), fructose (190 mg) were found to be favourable for the growth of *Colletotrichum coccodes*. However, Gelatin, fructose, maltose, mannitol showed poor growth and sporulation in *Colletotrichum capsici*, *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* and *Colletotrichum coccodes* respectively.

In another side among the eight nitrogen sources potassium nitrate (240 mg) and casein (205 mg) were superior for the growth of *Colletotrichum capsici*, while *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* showed best growth with peptone (305 mg), potassium nitrates (290 mg). *Colletotrichum coccodes* showed maximum growth with potassium nitrate (370 mg) and peptone (340 mg). A very poor growth of *Colletotrichum capsici*, *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* and *Colletotrichum coccodes* observed with ammonium chloride (80 mg), Ammonium molybdate (90 mg) and Ammonium nitrate (80 mg).

Hedge et.al. (1990) reported that glucose and sucrose are good carbon sources for the growth of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* isolated from Areca nut. Bhandari and Singh (1976) reported glucose as best for growth of *Alternaria tritici*. (Pandey and Shukla(1978)observed

better growth of *Helminthosporium* sp.on sucrose. These findings supports the present study. Similar results were also reported by Reddy (1972). Kaif and Tarr (1966), Agarwal and Shinkhede (1959) and Singh (1972).

Fungus utilizes both inorganic and organic sources of nitrogen (Cochrane, 1958). Among inorganic sources nitrates are more popular nitrogen sources for number of fungi. Ammonium nitrate has also been reported as a fairly good nutrition source for growth and sporulation of *Aspergillus flavus* (Olutiola, 1976). In Rhizospheric fungi i.e. *Aspergillus flavus*, *Aspergillus niger*, and *Aspergillus nidulans* isolated from pigeonpea showed good sporulation in glucose, fructose and sucrose, and in nitrogen sources potassium nitrate was found to be best for growth of *Aspergillus flavus*. While peptone for *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus nidulans*. (V. Jalander and B.D. Gachande)

The growth of all the three fungi was significantly higher under the influence of potassium nitrate, peptone and calcium nitrate; peptone was the best organic nitrogen source as it represents mixture of amino acids, (Cochrane,(1958,Ghosh (1969).

Table -1 : Effect of Carbon sources on the growth of *Colletotrichum* sp.

| Carbon Sources | Mycelial dry weight (mg) | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | <i>Colletotrichum capsici</i> | <i>Colletotrichum gloeosporioides</i> | <i>Colletotrichum coccodes</i> |
| Glucose | 270 | 210 | 170 |
| Fructose | 140 | 160 | 190 |
| Sucrose | 180 | 190 | 240 |
| Maltose | 130 | 80 | 120 |
| Lactose | 190 | 145 | 90 |
| Gelatin | 90 | 60 | 120 |
| Mannitol | 120 | 90 | 95 |
| Starch | 180 | 150 | 120 |
| Control | 15 | 25 | 30 |

Table -1 : Effect of Nitrogen sources on the growth of *Colletotrichum* species

| Nitrogen Sources | Mycelial dry weight (mg) | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | <i>Colletotrichum capsici</i> | <i>Colletotrichum gloeosporioides</i> | <i>Colletotrichum Coccodes</i> |
| Potassium nitrate | 240 | 290 | 370 |
| Sodium nitrate | 200 | 270 | 295 |
| Ammonium nitrate | 140 | 90 | 160 |
| Ammonium Chloride | 80 | 110 | 135 |
| Ammonium molybdate | 90 | 135 | 240 |
| Peptone | 150 | 305 | 340 |
| Casein | 205 | 135 | 195 |
| Calcium nitrates | 210 | 190 | 290 |
| Control | 10 | 20 | 15 |

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